

EXHIBIT A

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

SECURITIES INVESTOR PROTECTION
CORPORATION,

Plaintiff

Applicant

- against -

BERNARD L. MADOFF INVESTMENT SECURITIES,
LLC,

Defendant.

Adv. Pro. No. 08-01789 (SMB)

July 1, 2014
11:57 a.m.

50 Gristmill Lane
Great Neck, New York

DEPOSITION

of AARON BLECKER, a Witness herein, held
at the above-noted time and place before
Josephine Winter, Certified Shorthand
Reporter and a Notary Public of the State
of New York.

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* * *

A P P E A R A N C E S:

BECKER & POLIAKOFF, ESQS.
Attorneys for Witness AARON BLECKER
45 Broadway
New York, New York 10006
BY: HELEN DAVIS CHAITMAN, ESQ.
hchaitman@beckerny.com

BAKER & HOSTETLER, LLP
Attorneys for Trustee IRVING PICARD
45 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10111
BY: AMY E. VANDERWAL, ESQ.
avanderwal@bakerlaw.com
and
BIK CHEEMA, ESQ.
bcheema@bakerlaw.com

ALSO PRESENT:
EDWARD FORD, Videographer
ROBERT BLECKER

* * *

1

2 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Good morning. 11:57:19

3 Please note the microphones are 11:57:20

4 sensitive and may pick up whispering 11:57:21

5 and please turn off your cell phones 11:57:23

6 or place them away from the 11:57:25

7 microphones. 11:57:27

8 This is tape one of the 11:57:27

9 videotaped deposition of Aaron Blecker 11:57:29

10 taken by defendant in the matter of 11:57:32

11 Securities Investor Protection 11:57:34

12 Corporation, Plaintiff Applicant, 11:57:38

13 versus Bernard L. Madoff Investment 11:57:40

14 Securities, LLC, Defendant, in the 11:57:44

15 United States Bankruptcy Court, 11:57:47

16 Southern District of New York, case 11:57:48

17 number 08-01789(SMB). 11:57:51

18 This deposition is being held at 11:57:56

19 the home of Aaron Blecker, 50 11:57:57

20 Gristmill Lane, Great Neck, New York, 11:58:00

21 on July 1, 2014. The time is 11:58 11:58:03

22 a.m. 11:58:07

23 My name is Ed Ford. I'm the 11:58:07

24 videographer. The court reporter is 11:58:09

25 Josephine Winter. We are in 11:58:11

1 A. Blecker
2 association with Veritext. 11:58:13
3 For the record, will counsel 11:58:15
4 please introduce themselves. 11:58:16
5 MS. CHAITMAN: Helen Davis 11:58:18
6 Chaitman on behalf of Mr. Blecker from 11:58:20
7 Becker & Poliakoff. 11:58:20
8 MS. VANDERWAL: Amy Vanderwal 11:58:25
9 from on behalf of the Trustee Irving 11:58:25
10 Picard. 11:58:28
11 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Now will the 11:58:30
12 court reporter please swear in the 11:58:32
13 witness. 11:58:33
14 * * * 11:58:34
15 A A R O N B L E C K E R, having been 11:58:34
16 first duly sworn by a Notary Public of the 11:58:34
17 State of New York, upon being examined, 11:58:34
18 testified as follows: 11:58:43
19 EXAMINATION BY 11:58:43
20 MS. CHAITMAN: 11:58:45
21 Q Mr. Blecker, I'm going to be 11:58:45
22 very rude and ask you how old you are. 11:58:47
23 Can you tell us how old you are? 11:58:55
24 MR. R. BLECKER: How old are 11:58:56
25 you? 11:58:57

1 A. Blecker

2 Q Can you tell us how old you are? 11:58:58

3 A I'm 103 years old. I was born 11:58:59

4 1911, July 27. 11:59:02

5 Q Do you recall that I prepared a 11:59:06

6 Declaration for you to review and sign 11:59:11

7 that I submitted to the Bankruptcy Court? 11:59:14

8 A Yes. You prepared a brief for 11:59:16

9 me which I signed. 11:59:18

10 Q And did you review -- I'm going 11:59:19

11 to hand you what I'm going to mark as 11:59:22

12 Exhibit 1 of your deposition and this is 11:59:23

13 the Declaration that I prepared for you. 11:59:27

14 Do you recall reviewing this 11:59:31

15 Declaration? 11:59:32

16 A Yes, I remember now. 11:59:33

17 Q Okay. 11:59:34

18 And you recall that you signed 11:59:35

19 it? 11:59:39

20 A Absolutely. 11:59:39

21 Q Okay. 11:59:40

22 And when you reviewed it, did 11:59:41

23 you consider whether it was accurate? 11:59:42

24 A Absolutely. 11:59:44

25 Q And was this -- 11:59:46

1 A. Blecker

2 A In every respect. 11:59:48

3 Q It was accurate? 11:59:52

4 A Absolutely it was. 11:59:53

5 Q Now, do you recall that after 11:59:55

6 Madoff confessed, you submitted a claim to 12:00:00

7 the Trustee Mr. Picard? 12:00:03

8 A Correct. 12:00:06

9 Q And do you recall that you told 12:00:07

10 the Trustee that you had never withdrawn 12:00:10

11 any funds from your account? 12:00:13

12 MS. VANDERWAL: Objection. 12:00:15

13 A I didn't. I said I never 12:00:16

14 withdrew any. I didn't want to withdraw 12:00:18

15 any money. I felt it was such a good 12:00:20

16 investment and I felt this would be my 12:00:22

17 retirement and I'd have the funds 12:00:24

18 available for my grandchildren's college 12:00:27

19 tuition in the future. 12:00:29

20 Q Do you recall that the Trustee 12:00:32

21 claimed that you withdrew money from the 12:00:35

22 account in the 1980's and the 1990's? 12:00:38

23 That he claimed that? 12:00:42

24 A That's what he claimed and I 12:00:43

25 asked him to prove it to me, that I wanted 12:00:45

1 A. Blecker

2 to see some checks with my signature on 12:00:48
3 it. He had nothing to prove. They said 12:00:51
4 the burden of proof was on me. I never 12:00:54
5 received any check, never asked for any 12:00:56
6 check because I always felt it was a good 12:00:59
7 investment and I thought it would be there 12:01:01
8 for the rest of my time until my 12:01:04
9 retirement and I never withdrew any, never 12:01:06
10 requested any money for retirement, never 12:01:10
11 drew a penny. 12:01:12

12 And, as a matter of fact, if I 12:01:13
13 had withdrawn money, why would Madoff keep 12:01:16
14 crediting my account and adding to my 12:01:18
15 investment? If I had no money there, he 12:01:20
16 wouldn't have bothered with me. He would 12:01:23
17 have discarded me. In the meantime after 12:01:25
18 all the years he kept increasing my 12:01:27
19 investment, showed a profit return on my 12:01:30
20 investment and that's why it kept 12:01:34
21 accumulating. 12:01:36

22 Q Now, you had to pay taxes each 12:01:37
23 year on the appreciation in your account? 12:01:39

24 A Oh, absolutely. 12:01:41

25 MS. VANDERWAL: Objection. 12:01:42

1 A. Blecker

2 A All the profits that Madoff 12:01:43
3 earned for me I reported it in my tax 12:01:45
4 return showing I -- I made up a schedule 12:01:50
5 of transactions, stocks bought and sold 12:01:52
6 and showing profit from the stocks plus 12:01:57
7 the reporting dividend income that I 12:01:59
8 received on those securities and that was 12:02:02
9 reported each year. 12:02:04

10 Q Where did you get the money to 12:02:05
11 pay the taxes? Did you take it out of 12:02:08
12 your Madoff account? The money -- 12:02:11

13 A No. I had my own funds that I 12:02:14
14 accumulated. I had -- fortunately, I had 12:02:16
15 some money that I accumulated. I put all 12:02:19
16 my money into Madoff, so I had my checking 12:02:23
17 account, whenever taxes were due, I sent a 12:02:27
18 check to the government with estimated 12:02:29
19 payments four times a year and that's how 12:02:32
20 I paid my taxes. I had nothing from 12:02:35
21 Madoff. I had no correspondence, no 12:02:38
22 requests from them and no requests to 12:02:41
23 them. 12:02:43

24 Q Okay. 12:02:44

25 Are you absolutely certain that 12:02:45

1 A. Blecker

2 you never withdrew any money from your 12:02:47

3 Madoff account? 12:02:49

4 A Unequivocally. Never received a 12:02:50

5 dime. I never intended to withdraw. I 12:02:53

6 always felt it was going to be my future 12:02:56

7 investment forever, and it didn't turn out 12:02:58

8 that way, unfortunately. 12:03:00

9 Q Now, there was a point in time 12:03:02

10 when your wife had an account with Madoff 12:03:04

11 with you; is that right? 12:03:06

12 A That's right. Yes. 12:03:07

13 Q And -- 12:03:09

14 A She had an account. I had an 12:03:09

15 account, and then Madoff suggested we 12:03:11

16 consolidate into one account, so that's 12:03:15

17 what we did. 12:03:17

18 Q Now, did your wife ever withdraw 12:03:18

19 any money from Madoff? 12:03:21

20 A Of course -- she never handled 12:03:23

21 any of the financials. My wife was rather 12:03:26

22 shy. I handled all the financial 12:03:29

23 arrangements, all the financials of the 12:03:30

24 family. She was a good mother, as he can 12:03:32

25 attest to, and a hard-working mother and 12:03:35

1 A. Blecker

2 watched out for the children. My job was 12:03:39
3 to provide the financial security for the 12:03:43
4 family. 12:03:45

5 Q Are you certain she never 12:03:45
6 withdrew any funds from the Madoff 12:03:47
7 account? 12:03:49

8 A Absolutely. She had nothing to 12:03:49
9 do with it. She wouldn't know who to 12:03:51
10 call. 12:03:53

11 Q Okay. 12:03:53

12 Now, did you keep your bank 12:03:54
13 records from the 1980's? 12:03:59

14 A I tried to reconstruct them, but 12:04:02
15 Chase told me they don't go back more than 12:04:06
16 five years and they have no record so far 12:04:08
17 back, so they have no record they can 12:04:11
18 accommodate me. 12:04:13

19 Q So you went ahead and asked them 12:04:14
20 you wanted to try to get the records? 12:04:16

21 A The records to show that I never 12:04:17
22 received any Madoff -- any funds from 12:04:23
23 Madoff, no check, that the only checks 12:04:27
24 made out -- and that was Madoff's bank 12:04:28
25 account and I never saw it. They made out 12:04:32

1 A. Blecker

2 the checks for the stocks they bought on 12:04:34
3 the account. I never saw any checks, any 12:04:36
4 deposits. 12:04:39

5 All they did on my statement I 12:04:40
6 received a list of the stocks they bought 12:04:42
7 that month, what was sold and the money 12:04:43
8 was automatically deposited in the 12:04:46
9 account. I received no money. If I 12:04:49
10 received any money, there wouldn't have 12:04:52
11 been any money for deposits. All the 12:04:54
12 money was in securities sold and remained 12:04:56
13 in the bank account and Madoff handled it 12:04:58
14 all. I never saw any of the funds. I 12:05:00
15 just got a statement showing what 12:05:02
16 transactions had occurred. 12:05:05

17 Q Now, Mr. Picard claims that 12:05:06
18 checks were made out to you in uneven 12:05:10
19 amounts like \$3,230.02. 12:05:15

20 A Madoff would never have done my 12:05:22
21 bookkeeping. If I wanted to get money 12:05:24
22 from Madoff, if I needed money to pay 12:05:26
23 bills, I wouldn't have asked Madoff to do 12:05:29
24 it. If I wanted money, I would withdraw a 12:05:31
25 couple of hundred thousand dollars since I 12:05:34

1 A. Blecker

2 had a substantial amount. I wouldn't have 12:05:37
3 withdrawn a few dollars. I would have 12:05:38
4 withdrawn substantial. All of those 12:05:41
5 checks were not to me. They were for 12:05:42
6 payments of securities that they purchased 12:05:45
7 for my account. 12:05:47

8 Q Okay. 12:05:48

9 Now, based on your experience if 12:05:48
10 a check had been made out to you and sent 12:05:51
11 to you from Madoff and it was for 12:05:53
12 \$2,330.04 and it was made out to Health 12:06:03
13 South or General Motors or AT&T, what 12:06:06
14 could you have done with that check? 12:06:09

15 MS. VANDERWAL: Objection. 12:06:11

16 A I couldn't have done anything. 12:06:11
17 Bank would never have accepted an 12:06:13
18 endorsement of mine when it's made out to 12:06:14
19 another payee, so I never would have 12:06:17
20 received any checks and I would never 12:06:19
21 deposit such a check. I never got. I 12:06:21
22 never saw such a check. Those were all 12:06:23
23 Madoff's records. All I got was a 12:06:27
24 statement from him. No financial 12:06:29
25 instruments. 12:06:30

1 A. Blecker

2 Q Okay. I have no further 12:06:36

3 questions. 12:06:39

4 MS. CHAITMAN: Do you have any 12:06:39

5 questions? 12:06:39

6 MS. VANDERWAL: I do. 12:06:39

7 EXAMINATION BY 12:06:39

8 MS. VANDERWAL: 12:06:40

9 Q As you know, we are reserving 12:06:40
10 our right to ask additional questions once 12:06:41

11 we had a time to complete our review and 12:06:44

12 look over documents. Today I really just 12:06:46

13 want to clarify something I believe you 12:06:49

14 already stated. 12:06:51

15 You received statements from 12:06:51

16 BLMIS? 12:06:55

17 A Yes. 12:06:56

18 MS. CHAITMAN: Just spell it 12:06:58

19 out. 12:06:59

20 A Well, I received statements from 12:07:00

21 Bernard Madoff at the time. I didn't hear 12:07:02

22 BLMIS. I don't remember receiving it. It 12:07:06

23 was all Bernard Madoff and they were 12:07:08

24 verified by their accountants, confirmed 12:07:10

25 by Avellino & Bienes and that was it and 12:07:12

1 A. Blecker

2 that's the only correspondence I received 12:07:18

3 from Madoff. 12:07:19

4 Q And you reviewed those 12:07:20

5 statements? 12:07:21

6 A What's that? 12:07:21

7 Q Did you review those statements? 12:07:22

8 A I checked the statements to make 12:07:24

9 sure that whatever securities they charged 12:07:25

10 with, that was on their statement and the 12:07:29

11 profits I couldn't correct. They gave me 12:07:31

12 the prices and then that was it. 12:07:33

13 Q That's all I have. 12:07:37

14 A That's why as far as I could 12:07:38

15 check whatever they -- I could only check 12:07:40

16 from their statements, so I was really 12:07:42

17 going over their work, which I had no way 12:07:44

18 to prove whether it was correct or not, 12:07:45

19 but I assumed what they put on my 12:07:48

20 statement must have been in my account. 12:07:51

21 And that's how I confirmed it. 12:07:52

22 And Avellino & Bienes confirmed 12:07:55

23 it, so I felt that it was probably taken 12:07:57

24 care of and there wouldn't be any worry 12:08:01

25 about it and at that time there was no 12:08:03

1 A. Blecker

2 concern about Madoff, so you didn't have 12:08:05

3 to worry about checking the statement 12:08:08

4 carefully. It was a definite thing we all 12:08:11

5 thought. 12:08:17

6 MS. CHAITMAN: Do you have 12:08:20

7 anything else? 12:08:21

8 MS. VANDERWAL: Thank you. 12:08:22

9 That's all I have. 12:08:23

10 EXAMINATION BY 12:08:24

11 MS. CHAITMAN: 12:08:24

12 Q Mr. Blecker, were you introduced 12:08:24

13 to Madoff through Avellino & Bienes? 12:08:27

14 A No. I was introduced to Madoff 12:08:30

15 through his father-in-law Sol Levine and 12:08:32

16 his mother-in-law Pia (phonetic) Levine. 12:08:37

17 MR. R. BLECKER: No. Alpern, 12:08:41

18 dad. 12:08:43

19 Q Alpern -- 12:08:43

20 A Now I knew -- Alpern was the 12:08:43

21 brother-in-law of Sol Levine. All very 12:08:46

22 good things. We all played golf together. 12:08:49

23 And that's what my wife said, as long as 12:08:51

24 we're with Madoff and we're with the 12:08:53

25 family, he's not gonna defraud the family. 12:08:56

1 A. Blecker

2 Why don't we go in too? So we went in. 12:08:59

3 And there was all good 12:09:01

4 intentions on everybody's part. We 12:09:02

5 thought it was a wonderful thing. We had 12:09:04

6 wonderful times together socialing with 12:09:06

7 each other. Even Madoff had a party at 12:09:08

8 Rockefeller Center and invited the family, 12:09:11

9 invited us. We were friends. 12:09:15

10 So we knew the young Madoff sons 12:09:17

11 when they went to visit them. We saw them 12:09:23

12 when they were youngsters. Not that they 12:09:26

13 remembered me later, but that was it. 12:09:29

14 Q Wasn't the man's name Sol 12:09:33

15 Alpern? 12:09:39

16 A Sol Alpern? 12:09:39

17 Q Yes. 12:09:41

18 A No, it was not Sol Alpern. Sol 12:09:43

19 Alpern. Sol Levine. Sol Levine was the 12:09:47

20 father-in-law. Sol Alpern was his 12:09:51

21 brother-in-law. 12:09:53

22 We were friends with all of 12:09:54

23 them, both of them. We played golf 12:09:58

24 together. Families knew each other. The 12:09:59

25 children knew each other. We socialized, 12:10:02

1 A. Blecker

2 went to hotels together and very close. 12:10:05

3 Q Okay. 12:10:10

4 MS. CHAITMAN: I have no further 12:10:11

5 questions. 12:10:12

6 Do you have anything else. 12:10:13

7 MS. VANDERWAL: No. Thank you. 12:10:14

8 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Okay. The 12:10:16

9 time is 12:10 p.m., July 1, 2014. 12:10:17

10 This is the end of tape one. 12:10:20

11 We're off the record. 12:10:21

12 (TIME NOTED: 12:10 p.m.)

13 _____

14 (Signature of witness)

15 Subscribed and sworn to

16 before me this _____

17 day of _____,

18 20 .

19 _____

20

21 * * *

22

23

24

25

I N D E X

WITNESS	EXAMINED BY	PAGE
A. Blecker	H.D. Chaitman	4, 15
	A.E. Vanderwal	13

* * *

E X H I B I T

(retained by counsel)

EXHIBIT FOR	IDENTIFICATION	PAGE
Exhibit 1	Blecker Declaration	5

* * *

CERTIFICATION BY REPORTER

I, Josephine Winter, a Notary Public
of the State of New York, do hereby
certify:

That the testimony in the within
proceeding was held before me at the
aforesaid time and place;

That said witness was duly sworn
before the commencement of the testimony,
and that the testimony was taken
stenographically by me, then transcribed
under my supervision, and that the within
transcript is a true record of the
testimony of said witness.

I further certify that I am not
related to any of the parties to this
action by blood or marriage, that I am not
interested directly or indirectly in the
matter in controversy, nor am I in the
employ of any of the counsel.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto
set my hand this day of , 20 .

NAME OF CASE: SIPC vs Madoff
DATE OF DEPOSITION: July 1, 2014
NAME OF DEPONENT: Aaron Blecker

[illegible]

AARON BLECKER

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME
THIS 19th DAY OF July, 2014.

~~NOTARY~~ PUBLIC MY COMMISSION EXPIRES

JONATHAN LEE
Notary Public, State of New York
Qualified in Nassau County
No. 01LE6243386
My Commission Expires 06-20-2015

VERITEXT REPORTING COMPANY

Page 8

1 A. Blecker

2 A All the profits that Madoff 12:01:43
3 earned for me I reported it in my tax 12:01:45
4 return showing I -- I made up a schedule 12:01:50
5 of transactions, stocks bought and sold 12:01:52
6 and showing profit from the stocks plus 12:01:57
7 the reporting dividend income that I 12:01:59
8 received on those securities and that was 12:02:02
9 reported each year. 12:02:04

10 Q Where did you get the money to 12:02:05
11 pay the taxes? Did you take it out of 12:02:08
12 your Madoff account? The money -- 12:02:11

13 A No. I had my own funds that I 12:02:14
14 accumulated. I had -- fortunately, I had 12:02:16
15 some money that I accumulated. I ^{divest} put all *(initials)* 12:02:19
16 my money into Madoff, so I had my checking 12:02:23
17 account, whenever taxes were due, I sent a 12:02:27
18 check to the government with estimated 12:02:29
19 payments four times a year and that's how 12:02:32
20 I paid my taxes. I had nothing from 12:02:35
21 Madoff. I had no correspondence, no 12:02:38
22 requests from them and no requests to 12:02:41
23 them. 12:02:43

24 Q Okay. 12:02:44

25 Are you absolutely certain that 12:02:45

1 A. Blecker

2 you never withdrew any money from your 12:02:47

3 Madoff account? 12:02:49

4 A Unequivocally. Never received a 12:02:50

5 dime. I never intended to withdraw. I 12:02:53

6 always felt it was going to be my future 12:02:56

7 investment forever, and it didn't turn out 12:02:58

8 that way, unfortunately. 12:03:00

9 Q Now, there was a point in time 12:03:02

10 when your wife had an account with Madoff 12:03:04

11 with you; is that right? 12:03:06

12 A That's right. Yes. 12:03:07

13 Q And -- 12:03:09

14 A She had an account. I had an 12:03:09

15 account, and then Madoff suggested we 12:03:11

16 consolidate into one account, so that's 12:03:15

17 what we did. 12:03:17

18 Q Now, did your wife ever withdraw 12:03:18

19 any money from Madoff? 12:03:21

20 A Of course ^(NOT) -- she never handled ^{AD} 12:03:23

21 any of the financials. My wife was rather 12:03:26

22 shy. I handled all the financial 12:03:29

23 arrangements, all the financials of the 12:03:30

24 family. She was a good mother, as he can 12:03:32

25 attest to, and a hard-working mother and 12:03:35

1 A. Blecker
2 went to hotels together and very close. 12:10:05
3 Q Okay. 12:10:10
4 MS. CHAITMAN: I have no further 12:10:11
5 questions. 12:10:12
6 Do you have anything else. 12:10:13
7 MS. VANDERWAL: No. Thank you. 12:10:14
8 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: Okay. The 12:10:16
9 time is 12:10 p.m., July 1, 2014. 12:10:17
10 This is the end of tape one. 12:10:20
11 We're off the record. 12:10:21

12 (TIME NOTED: 12:10 p.m.)

13 *Dawn Blecker*
14 (Signature of witness)

15 Subscribed and sworn to
16 before me this 10th
17 day of July,
18 2014.

JONATHAN LEE
Notary Public, State of New York
Qualified in Nassau County
No. 01LE6243386
My Commission Expires 06-20-2015

19 *[Signature]*

21 * * *

22
23
24
25

[& - correspondence]

Page 1

&	a.m. 1:12 3:22	b	carefully 15:4
& 2:5,9 4:7 13:25 14:22 15:13	aaron 1:17 2:5 3:9 3:19 20:6,21	b 4:15 18:8	case 3:16 20:5
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